PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q79875

OTSUKA, Takao, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/006,121

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: February 18, 2004

For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY PACKAGING ENCASED

PRODUCT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form which are all the references of record in parent application No. 10/006,121. Applicants are not submitting duplicate copies of these references but request that they be listed on the face of any patent granted on the above application. (See 37 CFR §1.98(d)).

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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washington office 23373 customer number

Date: February 18, 2004

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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				Complete if Known			
Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/P10				Application Number	Unknown		
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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Filing Date	February 18, 2004		
<u> </u>	23112211122			First Named Inventor	OTSUKA, Takao		
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	- ··· ,		**	Examiner Name	Unknown		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q79875		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	C:4-	Document Number		Publication Date		
	Cite No. ¹	Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		US 3,166,878		1/1965	Pepitone et al.	
1		US 4,771,589		9/1988	Mueller et al.	
		US 5,797,247		8/1998	Nakagoshi et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS							
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.